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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PATENT  
Docket No.: 02307V-139100US  
Client Ref. No.: B03-091

On

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Haichao LIU, et al.

Application No.: 10/663,299

Filed: September 15, 2003

For: PROCESS AND CATALYSTS FOR  
THE OXIDATION OF METHANOL  
AND/OR ETHANOL

Confirmation No.: 2611

Examiner: Karl Puttlitz

Art Unit: 1621

RESPONSE -  
REQUEST FOR  
RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 26, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application on the basis of the comments below.

All claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as indefinite as failing to include what is said to be an essential element, namely the products of the oxidation of methanol and ethanol respectively. The examiner cites MPEP 2172.01 as the authority for the rejection.

Applicants submit that the claims are not indefinite and that said section of the MPEP does not support the rejection. That section specifically involves a situation in which a claim is said to have omitted an essential factor that is necessary in order to